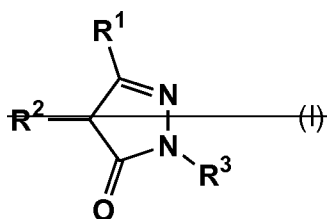


## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

**1. (Currently amended)** A method for treating amyotrophic lateral sclerosis or symptoms caused by amyotrophic lateral sclerosis and/or suppressing the progression thereof, which comprises administering to a patient in need thereof as an active ingredient 3-methyl-1-phenyl-2-pyrazoline-5-one, or a physiologically acceptable salt thereof, or a hydrate thereof, ~~a pyrazolone compound represented by the following formula (I), or a physiologically acceptable salt thereof, or a hydrate thereof:~~



wherein  $R^1$  represents a hydrogen atom, aryl,  $C_{1-5}$ -alkyl, or  $C_{3-6}$  (total carbon number) alkoxy carbonylalkyl,  $R^2$  represents a hydrogen atom, aryloxy, arylthio,  $C_{1-5}$ -alkyl or  $C_{1-3}$  hydroxyalkyl, or  $R^1$  and  $R^2$  are combined with each other to represent  $C_{3-5}$ -alkylene group, and  $R^3$  represents a hydrogen atom,  $C_{1-5}$ -alkyl,  $C_{5-7}$ -cycloalkyl,  $C_{1-3}$ -hydroxyalkyl, benzyl, naphthyl or phenyl, or phenyl substituted with the same or different 1 to 3 substituents selected from the group consisting of  $C_{1-5}$ -alkoxy,  $C_{1-3}$ -hydroxyalkyl,  $C_{2-5}$  (total carbon number) alkoxy carbonyl,  $C_{1-3}$ -alkylthio,  $C_{1-4}$ -alkylamino,  $C_{2-8}$  (total carbon number) dialkylamino, halogen atom, trifluoromethyl, carboxyl, cyano, hydroxyl group, nitro, amino and acetamide, under the condition that a drug holiday period of 1 day or more is provided once, twice or more during the period for treating the disease or suppressing the progression of the disease.

**2. (Cancelled)**

**3. (Previously presented)** The method of claim 1, wherein the drug holiday period is provided after a drug administration period of about 7 to 14 days.

**4. (Previously presented)** The method of claim 1, wherein a second or subsequent drug administration period is about 5 to 14 days.

- 5. (Previously presented)** The method of claim 1, wherein the drug holiday period is about 14 to 16 days.
- 6. (Previously presented)** The method of claim 1, wherein the drug administration period and the drug holiday period are each 14 days.
- 7. (Previously presented)** The method of claim 1, wherein a course consisting of an initial drug administration period of 14 days and a drug holiday period of 14 days is provided, followed by repetitions of the following combination of periods:
- drug administration period: 5 days per week for 2 weeks; and  
drug holiday period: 14 days.
- 8. (Currently amended)** The method of claim 1, wherein the daily dose contains about 15 to 240 mg of a ~~pyrazolone compound~~ 3-methyl-1-phenyl-2-pyrazoline-5-one as an active ingredient, or about 15 to 240 mg of 3-methyl-1-phenyl-2-pyrazoline-5-one ~~a pyrazolone compound~~ contained in a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of 3-methyl-1-phenyl-2-pyrazoline-5-one ~~a pyrazolone compound~~ or a hydrate of 3-methyl-1-phenyl-2-pyrazoline-5-one ~~a pyrazolone compound~~ or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof as an active ingredient.
- 9. (Currently amended)** The method of claim 1, wherein the daily dose contains about 60 mg of 3-methyl-1-phenyl-2-pyrazoline-5-one ~~a pyrazolone compound~~ as an active ingredient, or about 60 mg of 3-methyl-1-phenyl-2-pyrazoline-5-one ~~a pyrazolone compound~~ contained in a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of 3-methyl-1-phenyl-2-pyrazoline-5-one ~~a pyrazolone compound~~ or a hydrate of 3-methyl-1-phenyl-2-pyrazoline-5-one ~~a pyrazolone compound~~ or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof as an active ingredient.
- 10. (Previously presented)** The method of claim 1, wherein the administration is carried out once daily.

**11. (Previously presented)** The method of claim 1, wherein the administration is a continuous administration.

**12. (Previously presented)** The method of claim 11, wherein the continuous administration is intravenous infusion administration.

**13. (Currently amended)** The method of claim 12, wherein the administration rate in the intravenous infusion administration is about 0.5 to 1 mg/minute with respect to 3-methyl-1-phenyl-2-pyrazoline-5-one~~a pyrazolone compound~~ as an active ingredient or 3-methyl-1-phenyl-2-pyrazoline-5-one~~a pyrazolone compound~~ contained in an active ingredient.

**14. (Currently amended)** The method of claim 11, wherein the continuous administration is an administration form that is substantially equivalent to the intravenous infusion administration wherein the amount of 3-methyl-1-phenyl-2-pyrazoline-5-one~~a pyrazolone compound~~ as an active ingredient or 3-methyl-1-phenyl-2-pyrazoline-5-one~~a pyrazolone compound~~ contained in an active ingredient administered per minute is about 0.5 to 1 mg.

**15. (Previously presented)** The method of claim 1, wherein the symptoms caused by amyotrophic lateral sclerosis are decreased respiratory function, voice and speech disorders, dysphagia, or upper and lower extremity motor disorders.

**16. (Previously presented)** The method of claim 1, wherein the treatment of amyotrophic lateral sclerosis or symptoms caused by amyotrophic lateral sclerosis and/or the suppression of the progression thereof is a suppression of decrease in respiratory function in amyotrophic lateral sclerosis.

**17-32. (Cancelled)**